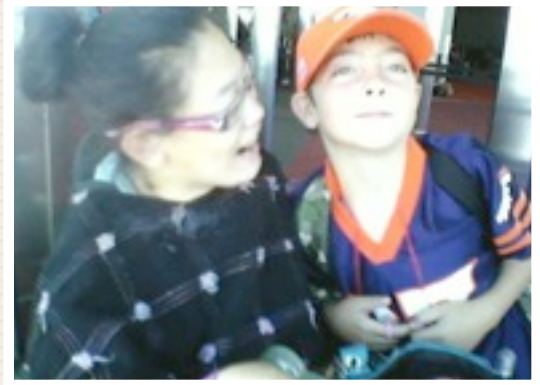


# TALES OF THE DIVINE MS. M



“I was smiling yesterday, I am smiling today and I will smile tomorrow. Simply because life is too short to cry for anything.”  
– Santosh Kalwar, *Quote Me Everyday*

## Spring Has Finally Sprung!

May has almost arrived here in Denver and with it, many changes. 2014 has been a busy year and will only get busier. So far this year we have had many unforeseen events. Things like suddenly needing to get Mikelle’s van’s ramp and door fixed, an unexpected malfunction with her power chair

required immediate maintenance, and then there was the dental surgery. Though Mikelle’s smile will be “under construction” for almost a year she is still grinning. There has been a lot of reasons to celebrate this year too. We were able to spend the Superbowl here in Denver with Mikelle’s brother Kasey

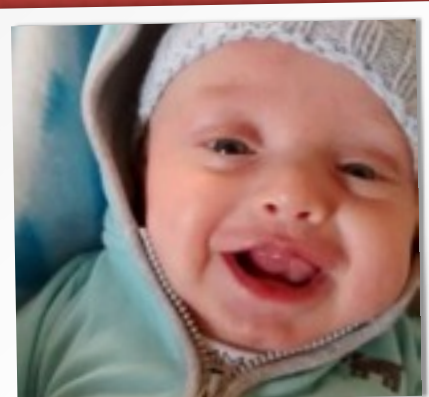
and his family (seen above). We also have spent much more time with the now healthy Elliot. Mikelle and her roomie Taylor have been spending their free time (time without mom!) hanging out at places like Starbucks and Duffey Roll. They love sitting out in the sunshine, enjoying coffee and treats.



MIKELLE AND OLLIE HAVE A VERY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP



MIKELLE’S BFFS AT STARBUCKS



CUTE & HEALTHY ELLIOT SPENDS FRIDAYS WITH US

# Winter has finally gone, Spring is upon us and Summer is just around the corner. We can't wait!

Mikelle's had lots of opportunities to catch up with her old friends in the new year. So far she's visited with old roommates Kari, who is helping us to rewrite our book, and Adriana, who is working on her own book while being supermom to her little girls. Mikelle saw Ian, former Starbucks buddy and future politician. Last but not least she recently was able to spend a little time with her cousins, Eric and Gwen. Eric has just graduated with a degree in neurosciences. His inspiration was his little cousin Mikelle. One day Eric hopes to help create devices that will better help those with disabilities like Mikelle's. We are all very proud of him!

**MIKELLE'S COUSIN ERIC  
(BELOW WITH WIFE GWEN)  
RECENTLY GRADUATED  
WITH HIS PHD IN  
NEUROSCIENCE.**

There is, however, one guy who Mikelle sees regularly but whom she dislikes. His name is Ollie. Ollie is a very special kitty with a very special relationship with Mikelle. You can read more about their adventures on our blog! You can also read about our never ending journey up Mount Laundry and our love of grocery shopping.

2014 has already had some ups and downs but we are really looking forward to some big things this year. Apple is joining up with the CDDC to help create a program to provide iPads to those in need of communication devices. Katherine is hosting a webinar on May 8th to promote engaging Colorado families for support and employment. Kasey and Jackson will be visiting for two weeks in August and Mikelle can hardly wait! We at the Shining Beautiful hope that your year brings as much excitement as ours! Happy Spring!

## THE GANG



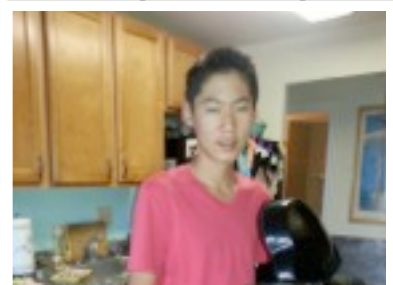
MIKELLE & KARI



MIKELLE & IAN



ADRIANA & MIKELLE



CONRAD HELPS OUT ON SUNDAYS

